

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 RSC-01 OES-03 SS-15 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /086 W

----- 116999

R 311610Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6785

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FOR EUR/SOV, OES/SCI/SEP/AND ERDA, EPA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAG: TGEN ENGR SENV UR

SUBJ: SOVIET INTEREST IN ARCTIC PIPELINE EXCHANGE

1. SCST HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION OF PETROLEUM AND GAS INDUSTRY ENTERPRISES IS INTERESTED IN SENDING TEAM OF SPECIALISTS TO NORTH SLOPE OF ALASKA TO SEE TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT. SOVIET TEAM WOULD WISH TO MAKE VISIT DURING FIRST QUARTER OF 1975. IN RETURN US EXPERTS WOULD BE INVITED TO INSPECT PIPELINES IN THE SOVIET ARCTIC.

2. ORIGINAL PROPOSAL FOR THIS EXCHANGE MADE BY SENATOR TED STEVENS OF ALASKA TO DEPUTY MINISTER SOROKHIN OF ABOVE MINISTRY DURING THE SENATOR'S VISIT TO MOSCOW IN AUGUST, 1973. AT THAT TIME SOROKHIN INDICATED HIS INTEREST IN PROPOSAL, BUT NOTHING HAS MATERIALIZED UNTIL NOW.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PROPOSED EXCHANGE COULD BE BENEFICIAL FOR US PROVIDED THAT FIRM COMMITMENT

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ON INTERESTING SITES TO BE VISITED IN THE SOVIET

ARCTIC IS OBTAINED IN ADVANCE AND THAT THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WOULD NOT BE ONE-SIDED IN THE SOVIETS' FAVOR. VISITS COULD POSSIBLY BE ARRANGED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT PROJECT AREA ON ARCTIC AND SUB-ARCTIC ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS OR UNDER ENERGY AGREEMENT PROJECT ON PREVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION DURING WELL DRILLING, PRODUCTION AND PIPELINE TRANSPORTATION OF OIL AND GAS. AS FAR AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, NOTHING HAS YET BEEN DONE IN ARCTIC PROJECT UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT AND THIS MIGHT PROVIDE START FOR COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES.

4. SOVIETS ARE DOUBTLESS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY ASPECTS OF PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION IN THE ARCTIC. WHILE EMBASSY BELIEVES SOVIETS HAVE LITTLE COMPARABLE TO OFFER THE US IN THIS AREA, OPPORTUNITY FOR US EXPERTS TO MAKE ON-SITE VERIFICATION OF MAJOR SOVIET PROBLEMS IN PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PLUS OIL EXTRACTION AND TRANSMISSION IN GENERAL COULD BE VALUABLE. THIS MAY BE ESPECIALLY SO IN LIGHT OF QUESTIONS RAISED BY MARIANNE SLOCUM IN HER ARTICLE IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER TECHNOLOGY REVIEW.

5. APPRECIATE COMMENTS OF DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED AGENCIES AS WELL AS GUIDANCE FOR RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROPOSAL.  
MATLOCK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM PIPELINES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2003  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET INTEREST IN ARCTIC PIPELINE EXCHANGE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, OEXC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006